

OFFICE of the STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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*Acting State Fire Marshal
Tonya L. Hoover*

September Message from the Chief:

Mid-year finds every division within the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) working through issues and projects that have a direct impact on the citizens of California and the task of fulfilling the public safety mission. To name just a few for this month's message:

At the August meeting of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standards Council, the group determined to move forward with a tentative interim agreement to discontinue the use of antifreeze in new residential fire sprinkler systems and provide direction for existing systems currently using antifreeze solution. It is important to keep in mind that this type of system accounts for less than five percent of the total residential fire sprinkler systems installed in the State and that alternate design, methods of protection from freezing, and installation is available when considering new construction. Also, there is continuing research to be conducted as the latest two research reports provided a number of factors that appear to contribute to the potential hazard of using antifreeze. I encourage all persons involved in residential fire sprinkler installation to carefully read the research reports from NFPA (www.nfpa.org/antifreeze) and to watch the OSFM website (<http://osfm.fire.ca.gov>) for updates. We are continuing to work with the NFPA and other stakeholders to promote and convey the message that residential fire sprinklers are important measures to ensure life and safety.

The Fire Engineering Division has been working very closely with the California Air Resources Board (ARB) to address a health and safety hazard regarding the Vapor System Technologies (VST) gas nozzles operating in California. Over the course of the last two months the OSFM has been meeting with the ARB and industry representatives to ensure public safety and allow approximately 3,000 gasoline stations equipped with VST nozzles to continue to operate. After examining all the information, the decision was made to mandate the removal of the hold-open latch from all VST nozzles and request assistance from the California Fire Chiefs and Fire Marshals to ensure this public safety mandate is completed. For more on this subject, please go to our website at <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov> for detailed information.

In addition, two Legislative Bills have recently been chaptered that carry a message of public safety. Senate Bill 183 (Lowenthal) was chaptered on May 7, 2010 which has provisions regarding carbon monoxide detection devices and their installation



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in existing construction. Assembly Bill 1773 (Mendoza) was chaptered on July 18, 2010 and is a key component to assist in the OSFM licensing enforcement efforts.

Whether it's research, program coordination, enforcement, or legislation, it's our combined voices, actions, and commitment that will assure the scope of our mission and the manner in which our strong public safety message is clearly demonstrated.

Be safe!

Tonya L. Hoover
Acting State Fire Marshal

Biofuels

An Issue of National Attention

Biofuels have come to the forefront of both policy and public attention for several reasons; such as, concerns about global warming, security, and the ability to use feed stocks for biofuels. There are also individuals wanting to lead more locally based lifestyles and it is possible to produce some biofuels on an individual or community scale. The California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) has coordinated the development of the Cal/EPA Fuels Guidance Document that is intended as a starting point for potential fuel users, marketers and producers to better identify the regulations and requirements affecting their fuels. Cal/EPA gathered the state agencies (Air Resources Board, Department of Food and Agriculture, the Office of the State Fire Marshal and the State Water Resources Control Board) who have statutory authority and/or regulations for biofuels to help create this document. The Cal/EPA Fuels Guidance Document draft was posted for comments and the final will be available to view and download October 1, 2010 at <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/biofuels/>. If you have any questions regarding this document, please contact Division Chief Vickie Sakamoto at (916) 324-4770 or vickie.sakamoto@fire.ca.gov

Code Development and Analysis Division

Residential Fire Sprinklers and the 2010 California Residential Code Training
On August 27, 2009 the Office of the State Fire Marshal convened with represen-

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tatives from various disciplines to provide information and suggested training recommendations to the State Fire Marshal. The task force developed a communications strategy to educate stakeholders on best practices based on recommendations of the phase I (Water Purveyors) and phase II (Installation) reports. This strategy includes additional resources available for training in the permit, design and installation of residential fire sprinklers.

The specific purpose of this training program ("Awareness Level Course" on Residential Fire Sprinklers and the 2010 California Residential Code) is to recognize that the requirements for residential fire sprinklers are designed to be a "life safety system" to prevent flash over and allow for the evacuation or rescue from fire. This is in preparation for a statewide residential fire sprinkler requirement for new construction, effective January 1, 2011, in the 2010 California Residential Code.

Key stakeholders include members of the California Fire Service, Building Industry, Building Officials, Manufactured Housing Association, Public Health Officials, State agencies, National Fire Protection Association, National Fire Sprinkler Association, League of California Cities and design professionals.

Target Audience for Training:

Fire Department/Fire Prevention Personnel (Plan Review, and Inspections) Building Department Personnel (Plan Review, and Inspections) Water Purveyors (Plan Review, and Inspections) Home Builders (BIA Chapters)/Contractors (Plan Preparation, Submittals, and Installation) Contractors: General Building Contractors [B], Fire Protection Contractor [C-16].

The Office of the State Fire Marshal in conjunction with Cal Chiefs Fire Prevention Officers Section, Building Officials and other stakeholders has scheduled dates and locations for the Awareness Level Course. We have completed 14 classes leading up to September and have the remaining classes scheduled.

2010 SFM Training Calendar and remaining class information/registration:

March 10, 2010 Sacramento, SFM HQ – Completed
March 17, 2010 Buellton, CFPI Annual Fire Prevention Workshop – Completed

June 1, 2010 - Roseville – Completed
June 2, 2010 - Davis – Completed
June 16, 2010 - Eureka – Completed
June 17, 2010 - Susanville – Completed



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July 7, 2010 - Rancho Cucamonga – Completed
July 8, 2010 - Oceanside (San Diego) – Completed
July 21, 2010 - Petaluma (Sonoma County) – Completed
July 22, 2010 - Hayward (Alameda County) – Completed

August 4, 2010 - Sunnyvale (Santa Clara County) – Completed
August 5, 2010 - Seaside (Monterey County) – Completed
August 18, 2010 - Glendale – Completed
August 19, 2010 - Anaheim – Completed

September 1, 2010 - Butte County/Chico – Completed
September 2, 2010 - Diamond Springs – Completed
September 15, 2010 - Santa Barbara – [information/registration](#)
September 16, 2010 - Atascadero – [information/registration](#)
September 28, 2010 - Fresno – [information/registration](#)
September 29, 2010 - Modesto – [information/registration](#)
October 6, 2010 - Palm Springs – [information/registration](#)
October 20, 2010 - Redding – [information/registration](#)

November 18, 2010 – Costa Mesa (CALBO Ed Week/ABM)

For additional information or additional class offerings please visit our website <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov> or contact: Kevin Reinertson, Division Chief, Code Development and Analysis, at (916) 327-4998 or by email at kevin.reinertson@fire.ca.gov



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Codes and Regulations Information Bulletin

Some examples have been forwarded by CAL FIRE staff and local agencies that reflect some confusion on how to handle fire apparatus access road standards in State Responsibility (SRA) and non-SRA areas. Two separate codes are relevant: Title 14 and Title 24. Both deal with fire department access.

To address the issue, the OSFM has developed and posted a new Information Bulletin regarding Fire Apparatus Access Roads and the 2010 California Fire Code. Specifically, this Information Bulletin clarifies the application of California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24, Part 9 – 2010 California Fire Code (CFC) Chapter 5, Section 503 Fire Apparatus Access Roads in those areas where CCR, Title 14, Division 1.5, Chapter 7, Subchapter 2 – SRA Fire Safe Regulations apply in State Responsibility Areas (SRA).

This new Information Bulletin has been posted on the Office of the State Fire Marshal's web page at <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/informationbulletin/information-bulletin.php>.

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Planning and Risk Analysis Division

Fire Plan Program

On June 9, 2010, the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) voted unanimously to approve the "2010 Strategic Fire Plan." The plan is the result of a cooperative effort by both the Board and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) to establish the levels of statewide fire protection services for California's State Responsibility Area (SRA) lands. "This collaborative effort ultimately benefits the residents of this state," said Board Chairman Stan Dixon. "It is incumbent upon state government to take constructive action on significant issues of concern that affect the property and livelihood of Californians."

"The importance of developing a single, comprehensive strategic fire plan in concert with the Board was clear to me from the beginning," said Chief Del Walters, Director of CAL FIRE. "That is why I requested three seats on the steering committee to represent Fire Protection, Resource Management Programs and the Office of the State Fire Marshal. I am very pleased with the effort and accomplishments of all who participated in producing this document." This is the first statewide fire plan developed in concert between the Board and CAL FIRE. This new plan recognizes that fire will occur in California and works to answer the question of *how do we utilize and live with that risk of wildfire?*

To view the Fire Plan:

http://www.bof.fire.ca.gov/board_committees/resource_protection_committee/current_projects/resources/strategicfireplan_june2010_06-04_photos.pdf

West Wide Wildfire Risk Assessment

The Council of Western State Foresters (CWSF) and the Western Forestry Leadership Coalition (WFLC) are sponsoring a wildfire risk assessment of all lands for the 17 western states and selected Pacific Islands. This assessment is known as the "West Wide Wildfire Risk Assessment, or "WWA." Background information can be found at the WWA website at <http://www.westwideriskassessment.com/>. Project funding has been secured in the form of State Fire Assistance grant funds allocated to the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) to administer the project on behalf of CWSF/WFLC. The Sanborn Map Company, which performed a similar assessment for the Southern states, is the contractor working with ODF to complete the assessment. A Project Steering Committee provides input from the states and provides guidance on the study. CAL FIRE has a representative on the Committee.

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The primary goals of the wildfire risk assessment are to quantify the magnitude of the current wildland fire problem in the West and to provide a common baseline for quantifying mitigation activities and monitoring change. Possible uses will include national, regional and state level strategic planning and policy discussions. Applications at the local level may also be possible. Results from the project should be available by the end of 2011.

2010 Forest and Range Assessment and Strategies Documents Complete and on Web

Following a year and a half of planning, analysis, and public review, the Fire and Resource Assessment Program has completed the 2010 Forest and Range Assessment and Strategies Reports. As dictated by the 2008 Farm Bill, the reports were delivered to the U.S. Forest Service on June 18, 2010. They have been approved both by the Regional Forester and by the National Office of the Forest Service.

The Assessment and Strategies documents fulfill both the federal (2008 Farm Bill) and state mandates for periodic forest and rangeland assessments. The assessment analyzes all forests and rangelands in California, regardless of ownership, for a variety of resource conditions and values. A separate strategies document was prepared to recommend actions to address issues raised in the assessment.

Both reports are available on the CAL FIRE website at: <http://frap.fire.ca.gov/assessment2010.html>. Additionally, users can download print-quality statewide maps as well as all of the datasets created for and utilized in the analysis.



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Pipeline Safety Division

New Pipeline Will Deliver to San Jose Airport

As you board an early morning flight on the way to an important meeting, your first thought is not likely centered on how the airport receives its fuel. Maybe that's because we see fewer and fewer fuel trucks clogging the freeways on the way to the airport. Many airports in California are now using pipelines as their main supplier of fuel limiting the need of delivering fuel by trucks. In fact, Wickland Pipeline constructed a jet fuel line in 2005 linking an interstate petroleum pipeline to the Sacramento International Airport. This year the Pipeline Safety Division has been monitoring Wickland's construction of a new pipeline that will connect a bulk fuels terminal to the San Jose Airport. With this new pipeline delivery system, Wickland Pipeline estimates an elimination of 78 individual truck trips per day to the San Jose Airport.

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The San Jose Airport currently receives jet fuel by truck and has one tank for on-site storage. In anticipation of the pipeline, a Fuel Consortium at the San Jose Airport has constructed a new facility with three storage tanks. While the Pipeline Safety Division will have jurisdiction over the Wickland pipeline, our authority stops there. The local Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and other agencies have oversight of the airport petroleum systems.

The Pipeline Safety Division will be reviewing the construction plans and procedures for the pipeline project to verify that they conform to the requirements in Chapter 49, Part 195 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) as they relate to pipeline design, construction, and testing. Design requirements in the CFR address such issues as the required strength of pipe and the design of components that will be attached to the pipeline. Requirements in the CFR addressing construction include welding specifications, welder certification, pipe coating, installing pipe in the ditch, and the required depth of burial. Testing will include an 8-hour hydrostatic pressure test. The Pipeline Safety Division will also conduct field inspections to ensure that the pipeline is constructed and tested in accordance with the pipeline operators' written procedures.



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State Fire Training Division

What's Up Down South?

Despite current fiscal problems that plague all of California, training officer meetings continue in Southern California. Training officer organizations are engaged in discussions centering on the continued sharing of resources and information across jurisdictional boundaries. Many departments have eliminated the 40 hour training officer position due to budget constraints. In their place, line (shift) personnel are asked to fill-in the training officer position making communication between departments even more important.

The following counties have active training officer associations that meet within their operational area:

Los Angeles Regional Training Group (RTG) is a group of Chief Officers from various jurisdictions within Los Angeles County. There are 31 fire departments within this area including Los Angeles Fire Department and Los Angeles County Fire (two of the largest), where training is coordinated by the RTG and includes input from the surrounding Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) and local community colleges located within the area. The RTG is setting up six Regional Training Units within the county to provide training throughout the area.

The counties of Riverside, San Diego, and San Bernardino have training officer organizations that report to the Chiefs associations' in their respective counties.

State Fire Training (SFT) has a vested interest in training officer organizations statewide. The role of the Deputy State Fire Marshal (DSFM) is to provide assistance to these various groups by providing current information and to assist departments with training resources. DSFM attends these training officer meetings when ever possible as both an active and interested guest.

Contact DSFM Mike.garcia@fire.ca.gov or Ramiro.rodriquez@fire.ca.gov for assistance with any SFT questions.

May the Force Be with You!

Northern California Training Officers Strategic Planning Meeting

Soft, tan rolling hills studded with clumps of blue green oak trees greeted the arrival of the Northern California Training Officer Board Members at Skywalker Ranch in Marin County. "This is great environment for developing strategic planning documents," according to Chief Mark Romer (retired Roseville F.D.). Tom For-

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ester, the retired Fire Chief of the Skywalker Ranch Fire Department hosted and facilitated a planning meeting for the Northern California Training Officers that included special guest Acting State Fire Marshal Tonya Hoover.

After introductions, the group documented what they wanted to get of the one-day meeting. Ideas like a "training officer academy," "increasing training officer membership," "succession planning," and "whether we are currently meeting the needs of the next generation of firefighters," are but a few of the ideas in which the board members were interested.



"Strategic plans are living documents that need to be updated every year," Chief Forester explained to the assembled group. One of the most important things to do, before reevaluating and updating your current plan, is to document the organizational success of the previous year.

The training officers were then introduced to key concepts in the strategic planning process and were led through a number of exercises to help them redefine their vision, mission and values, along with the goals and objectives of their organization. This was just a starting point for the Northern California Training Officers. The updated strategic plan will be brought to the Fresno Symposium for additional input and work. The finished plan will guide the organization into the following year as they grapple with the challenges facing our industry today and in the future.



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The Board Members, and their guest, finished the planning session with a tour of the Skywalker Ranch facilities, full of historic movie memorabilia, and the Skywalker Ranch Fire Station. "Skywalker Ranch, a place where ideas become reality, is an appropriate setting for the creative and visionary thinking necessary for fire service training today," said Chief Hoover, Acting State Fire Marshal.

California Incident Command Certification System (CICCS) Qualifications

The CICCS Task Force just completed the delivery of eight statewide workshops introducing the highly anticipated CICCS 2010 Qualifications Guide for master mutual aid. The theme and emphasis of the new guide is ultimately fire fighter safety. All sessions were well attended and informative.

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July 1, 2010 is the effective date for implementation of all new position trainees under the new 2010 guide. Existing Trainees with open position task books will continue to follow the prescriptive guidelines of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG), PMS 310-1, April 2006 edition. The new guide was widely accepted as the minimum standard for the All-Risk work environment.

The Task Force continues to work in close conjunction with FIRESCOPE and the respective specialist working groups as new positions are introduced into the guide as well as the required coursework and experience components. The new guide is available for download via the State Fire Training, Cal EMA, and FIRESCOPE websites. For more information email Deputy State Fire Marshal, Ramiro Rodriguez at Ramiro.Rodriguez@fire.ca.gov.

Updates to Rapid Intervention Crew Tactics FSTEP Course

The current FSTEP RIC Tactics course was developed ten years ago by the Northern California Training Officers Association (NOR CAL TO's) and presented to SFT as an FSTEP course. It went through the review and adoption process and was published in December 2000. It was the intent of NOR CAL TO's, that this original course function as a prototype and help the California Fire Service develop more sophisticated rescue methods. The course was well received and their intent was met as many new methods have been developed through training and experience.

Nine years later, when the RIC Curriculum Cadre reconvened they determined that there was too much material to include in the current 16-hour model. The cadre proposed that the current curriculum be expanded into three separate but complementary courses rather than one 48-hour course. Each course was then developed to stand alone or as a part of a comprehensive training program based on agency and/or student needs. These classes include:



- A 16-hour Fire Fighter Self-Survival Techniques course was developed at the Fire Fighter I level, allowing for easy incorporation into most State Fire Marshal approved academies. Academy candidates, probationary fire fighters, paid-call and volunteers are provided self-survival techniques during the course.

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- A 24-hour Rapid Intervention Crew Operations course was developed at the Fire Fighter II level. Probationary fire fighters as well as seasoned full-time, paid-call and volunteers can learn various techniques for fire fighter rescue.
- An 8-hour Command and Control of the RIC Deployment course was developed at the Company Officer and Chief Officer levels. This course focuses on a systematic approach to manage a fire fighter rescue.



The Fire Fighter Self-Survival Techniques course has been approved and courses are being scheduled. The RIC Operations and Command and Control courses have been endorsed by STEAC and will be reviewed by the State Board of Fire Services for final approval.

Update classes will be offered throughout the state for current RIC instructors for the Fire Fighter Survival and the RIC Operations courses. Instructor registration for the current RIC Tactics course scheduled after December 2010 will not be accepted.



Since the Command and Control of the RIC Deployment is a new course, it will be offered with guidelines for becoming an instructor following SFT protocols. Each course instructor guide will provide facility and equipment guidelines required to make the class successful.



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Company Officer Curriculum Development Update

During 2009 a cadre of ten fire officer representatives from throughout California conducted a comprehensive review of the entire fire officer curriculum utilized to meet the education requirements for (at the time) Fire Officer and Chief Officer Certification. This was the first time that the curriculum have been looked at in its' entirety since it was implemented over 25 years ago. As one would expect a number of changes were suggested and submitted to STEAC for their endorsement and presented to the State Board of Fire Services for their approval. Major changes to the certification track include creating three levels of certification for Fire Officer: Company Officer, Chief Fire Officer, and Executive Fire Officer. This necessitated renaming the certification track as "Fire Officer" and the first

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level in the certification track required being renamed "Company Officer." Within the Company Officer Certification track nine courses are still required plus ICS-300.

The significant changes to the Company Officer curriculums included completely reworking Command 1A and 1B, with slight modification to Command 1C to make it compatible with the organization of the Command 1A and 1B courses. Fire Prevention 1A and 1B were eliminated from the curriculum (courses aimed at fire prevention personnel) and a new fire prevention course was created entitled: Life Safety Inspections for Company Officers. Management 1 was completely reworked and a new course, Leadership Development for the Company Officer, was added. The two Training Instructor courses and the Fire Investigation course have either been revised or are being revised by other cadres.

Currently work on the Command 1A curriculum is nearing completion and major work has begun on Command 1B. The target date to complete these two projects is by December 2010. The plan to revise Command 1C is to begin work in January of 2011. In the meantime, work will begin on the development of the new fire prevention course beginning in September of 2010. The plan is to begin revision of the Management 1 and Leadership course in late spring of 2011.



The Command 1B workgroup is not all work! We occasionally let them out of the office to eat and have some fun!"